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## EXCITEMENT IN INDIANAPOLIS, INDIANA.

Explosions and Earthquakes Under the House of James Newport—Many Theories Advanced, But the Mystery Unsolved.

Correspondence of the Progressive Farmer.

Indianapolis is at present very much interested in some peculiar demonstrations at No. 1,326, Capital Ave., North, being the home of James Newport. About two weeks ago, the family were startled by a low rumbling sound and felt the ground quiver under the house. These demonstrations continued each day, becoming more frequent and more severe. Becoming alarmed, they told their friends and acquaintances and the matter soon became general talk. People began to gather about the premises and in a short time they were standing about in the yard, and some were so bold that they stood and watched the family through the windows. Mr. Newport has not been to his place of business for several days, because of the rowds at his home.

## WHAT THE OWNER SAYS.

Mr. Newport says that when the shocks occur now they are so severe that the house seems to swing, giving one a feeling of sickness. One peculiar feature is that even though the shocks are severe, they have (with one or two exceptions) been felt only by persons on the Newport premises. On one occasion, however, the report was distinctly heard and the shock plainly felt several hundred feet from the Newport house.

Mr. Newport's theory is that there is a series of gas explosions taking place down deep in the earth. The fact that these explosions continue to grow louder has convinced him that the gas is coming to the surface, and he has decided to vacate his house and last night moved his family to the home of friends in another part of the city. The nervous strain of the shocks and the annoyance of the crowd have almost prostrated Mrs. Newport.

## MEN WHO WERE NOT AFRAID.

An amusing side of the affair took place last night. A newspaper man, together with others obtained permission to stay in the house and take notes of what happened. When Mr. Newport left with his family there were ten men in the parlor, telling what had happened, how it came to happen, etc., when they were startled by a low rumbling and then a sound like a muffled gun shot. When they recovered from their surprise they discovered that they were short four men. The first shock was quickly followed by another and louder one, and two more men were missing. This left only four men, but they were not the kind that run. They were there to stay and see what happened. They stayed—they saw—and something happened. A lurch had been set out for them and was on the piano. The newspaper man looked at his watch and ventured the remark that he always made it a custom to eat a lunch about this time in the evening. He took a large piece of apple pie and was about to take a bite, when there came several loud reports in quick succession; the house commenced to swing; the windows rattled; the furniture moved—and so did the four men.

## TROUBLE AT THE DOOR.

Not a word was spoken, but every man seemed to make up his mind that the others could stay if they wanted to, but for his part, he believed he would go, and every man acted on that idea.

Unfortunately, Mr. Newport had not anticipated anything of this kind, for in building his house he put in a door of the average size, large enough, however, under ordinary circumstances, but the present circumstances could not be classed among the ordinary. Indeed it was far from it, for here were four men in the greatest of haste, all headed for that single door with a strong probability that they would all round up there at the same time, which they did—every man coming in on time and taking an active part in a sardine act at the door. Things were getting no better when there was a heart-rending outburst in the cellar. Every man felt that there was nothing between him and that noise but the floor—and no telling how soon the floor might take a notion to go—and the life and energy that was put into the sardine business was truly wonderful. The door-casing was creaking under the tremendous pressure. Coats, vests, neckties and suspenders were beginning to bid each other good bye, when one of the men, by a mighty effort broke loose from his moorings and the four perspiring men shot through the door. During all this time the newspaper man had neglected to let go of the piece of pie, but disinterested parties say that by the time they got through the door the pie was fairly and equally distributed between all of them.

## WHAT THE OWNER WILL DO.

Mr. Newport has just closed a contract with J. C. Sipe of this city, in

which Mr. Sipe agrees to move the house to the rear of the lot and will at once commence to bore for oil or gas where the house now stands. Mr. Newport invests no money, but has an interest in all profits. There may be more to tell later on.

EUGENE EDWARDS

## THE PART PLAYED BY FOREIGN VOTERS

Correspondence of The Progressive Farmer.

BOSTON, Dec. 3, 1896.

In view of the fact that some of our newspapers, in commenting on the recent election, have intimated that the foreign vote influenced the result of that election, we beg to call your attention to the following:

What most of the advocates of further restriction want, and what the Lodge-Corliss bill, shortly to come before the Senate, aims to accomplish, is not the exclusion of foreigners, generally, but those who are ignorant alike of their own language, of an occupation, and of the standards of living and character which distinguish the American people.

Now in regard to the recent election two things may be said:

1st. The way a man will vote in a particular election is not a test of his desirability in other respects.

2d. A bill like the one proposed would have kept out a very small portion of the foreign born who voted in the recent election either for gold or for silver, for McKinley or for Bryan. It has been shown in the various publications of the Immigration Restriction League, and elsewhere, that illiteracy and general undesirability go together. The illiterate are the Slav, Latin and Asiatic races. During the last fiscal year the average illiteracy of immigrants from Austria-Hungary, Italy, Poland and Russia was 40.1 per cent., while of those from the United Kingdom, France, Germany and Scandinavia it was only 3.7 per cent.

Now what part did the Slav, Latin and Asiatic vote play in the recent election? According to the census of 1890, (Part 1, pp. 140-177) if all the males of voting age of those races had been naturalized and had voted in the last election, the percentage which their vote would have been of the total vote would be as follows: United States 2.61; North Atlantic States, 3.08; South Atlantic States, 0.50; North Central States, 2.54; South Central States, 0.81; Western States, 8.99. But not all these could have voted. By the census of 1890, (part 2, pp. 600, 688) of the Slav, Latin and Asiatic foreign born in the United States 32.0 per cent. were aliens, while of the British, German and Scandinavian only 9.9 per cent. were aliens. The vote of the Slav, Latin and Asiatic elements of our population was, therefore, not over 13 per cent of the total vote in the election, and probably much less. It is true that there has been a large immigration of the Slav and Latin people during the last six years, and that last year they formed 52 per cent of the total immigration. But it has been shown both by census and by the testimony of the immigrants themselves that they do not go into the States which were pivotal during the last election, except to the city of Chicago, but congregate on the Atlantic seaboard.

It is, therefore, misleading to say that the illiterate foreign-born vote in the recent election has any material bearing upon the question of excluding the illiterate immigrants who are now presenting themselves for admission. In 1883, the Slav and Latin immigration was about one-tenth of the total immigration; to day it is more than half. The people who built up the North and West were the British, Irish, Germans and Scandinavians. These would be practically unaffected by a reading and writing test.

Very truly yours,

PRESCOTT F. HILL,  
Sec'y Immigration Restriction League.

## IN MEMORIAM.

WHEREAS, On October 19, 1896, our highly esteemed Bro. J. G. Morgan passed away from time to eternity, from a lower to a higher life, from the Sub-Alliance to the Supreme Council, and,

WHEREAS, Bro. Morgan was President of Flint Hill Alliance for two terms, and for many years our Business Agent to the satisfaction of all—a bulwark in the church, a good citizen, a good husband and to the widows, a father to the fatherless, he had eyes for the blind, clothes for the naked and food for the hungry. He was a staff upon which the poor and afflicted could always lean. But to include all in one, he was a Christian Allanceman in whom was no variableness nor shadow of turning. He passed over the river with armor on and his dues paid up. Therefore, be it

Resolved, 1. That we, the members of Flint Hill Alliance, No. 1915, extend to his wife, his Sisters, his children, his church, his many friends and his Alli-

ance our deepest sympathy in their bereavement

Resolved, 2. Our Father who art in heaven, we desire in this the hour of chastening and trial to lift our hearts to Thee in that spirit of submission, humility and devotion that will be most acceptable in Thy sight. Help us, Heavenly Father, to realize Thy infinite goodness and boundless mercy unto us that we may, from our hearts, exclaim, "Holy! Holy! Holy! Lord God on High; Thy will be done on earth as it is done in heaven. Have mercy upon us in this hour of grief and may this dark cloud have its silver lining."

Resolved, 3. May we all so live that when Thy summons comes to die, we may receive Thy blessed assurance: "Well done thou good and faithful servant; enter into the joys prepared for thee."

"My latest sun is sinking fast;  
My face is almost run.  
"Rock of Ages cleave for me,  
Let me hide myself in Thee.  
"On Jordan's stormy banks I stand,  
And cast a wistful eye  
To Canaan's fair and happy land,  
Where my possessions lie."

Resolved, 4. That a copy of these resolutions be sent to THE PROGRESSIVE FARMER for publication.

MRS. FANNIE DYER,  
MRS. P. B. SNEED,  
W. H. DAVIS,  
Committee.

## FUN FOR THE SPANIARDS.

A few weeks ago a citizen of New Orleans having made a dicker with a representative of the Spanish government went over to Texas to secure a lot of horses for the use of the Spaniards in Cuba. These horses were to be used by the Spanish army in its operations against the insurgents. The total number of horses wanted was 2,200. One mixed lot of horses and mules, about 600 has been forwarded, and the remainder should have arrived from Texas in New Orleans last Sunday, but they failed to appear on time, though at last advices were expected daily.

On the arrival of the horses and mules, especially the mules, the fun will begin. The horses are of the mustang variety, long celebrated for their agility and endurance. The mules ask no odds of the mustang. The Texas mule is fully as supple as any mustang living or that ever did live, and can give as good a variety performance as the mustang any day in the week. It is safe to assume that both mules and mustangs are unbroken, in the usual meaning of that term. Of course they will be pronounced gentle in Texas gentle means that an animal has been ridden at least once. The manner in which an animal is made gentle is to lasso him, bindfold him, strap a saddle on him, put a man on his back, and then whip off the blind. If he doesn't start off promptly, a number of men on horse-back rush at him, yelling and whipping him with quirts. This persuades him to tuck his tail and light out across the prairie at full speed, the mounted men following and whipping. When he has been chased until he can run no longer he is gentle and is turned out on the range.

This is the material to be furnished the Spaniards. When they mount their steeds, whether horse or mule, there will be a performance equalled only by Buffalo Bill's show. There will be Spaniards scattered all over the vicinity where the mounting took place. Less than two out of twenty riders will remain astride their steeds in ten seconds after the start. A Texas mustang can jump two ways at once and has been known to make four jumps inside of three seconds, while a mule has been timed one quarter of a second less. The curved back and stiff legs of a mustang are too much for any but the most experienced riders. When one of these animals jumps straight up in the air three or four feet and comes down with his back arched and all four feet together, the shock is something terrific and almost always disastrous to the rider. But should he retain his seat, a bound to one side, another to the opposite side, and a few lightning up and down, front and rear movements, settles the business, and the rider has ceased to ride, being lucky if he has not ceased to breathe.

The cavalry branch of the Spanish army will be largely laid up for repairs shortly after the appearance of the mustangs on the scene of war. A volley from the insurgents would not do half the damage the mustangs will, and the man who negotiated the mustang supply will be looked upon as an enemy in disguise. He will be an object of scorn and hatred. Every man who attempts to ride one of the Texas importations will become soured and disappointed, and desertions to the Cubans will become numerous. The feeling against the United States will be increased, and one more grievance added to the long list. It is a pity that mustang contract was entered into, but it is too late now. The evil is beyond remedy.—Washington Post.

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## NOTICE OF WAKE COUNTY MEETING.

ROLESVILLE, N. C.

The first regular quarterly meeting of Wake County Alliance for '97 will be held in Raleigh on the second Thursday in January, 14th.

Let every Alliance in the county be stir himself and make the first meeting a good one, and the year 1897 a memorable one for Alliance work.

Sincerely,  
L. N. RANES,  
Secretary and Treasurer.

North Carolina has a Mica output of 100,000 pounds a year. New Hampshire produces about 25,000 pounds, South Dakota 18,000 pounds, and New Mexico 1,000 pounds. The Mica of North Carolina is of the best quality and brings the highest price.

(OFFICIAL)

## NATIONAL ALLIANCE DEMANDS.

Adopted at Washington, D. C., February 6, 1896.

WHEREAS, The Declaration of Independence, as a basis for a Republican form of Government that might be progressive and perpetual, states:

"That all men are created equal; that they are endowed with certain, alienable rights; that among these are life, liberty and the pursuit of happiness; that to secure these rights, governments are instituted among men, deriving their just powers from the governed."

We hold, therefore, that to restore and preserve these rights under a Republican form of government, private monopolies of public necessities for speculative purposes, whether of the means of production, distribution or exchange, should be prohibited, and whenever any such public necessity or utility becomes a monopoly in private hands, the people of the municipality, state or union, as the case may be, shall appropriate the same by right of eminent domain, paying a just value therefor, and operate them for, and in the interest of, the whole people.

FINANCE.

We demand a national currency, safe, sound and flexible; issued by the general government only; a full legal tender for all debts and receivable for all dues, and an equitable and efficient means of distribution of this currency, directly to the people, at the minimum of expense and without the intervention of banking corporations and in sufficient volume to transact the business of the country on a cash basis.

(a) We demand the free and unlimited coinage of silver and gold at the legal ratio of 16 to 1.

(b) We demand a graduated income tax.

(c) That our national legislation shall be so framed in the future as not to build up one industry at the expense of another.

(d) We believe that the money of the country should be kept as much as possible in the hands of the people, and hence we demand that all National and State revenues shall be limited to the necessary expenses of the government economically and honestly administered.

(e) We demand that postal savings banks be established by the government for the safe deposit of savings of the people, and to facilitate exchange.

(f) We are unalterably opposed to the issue, by the United States, of interest bearing bonds, and demand the payment of all coin obligations of the United States, as provided by existing laws, in either gold or silver coin, at the option of the government and not at the option of the creditor.

TRANSPORTATION.

(a) The government shall purchase or construct and operate a sufficient mileage of railroads to effectually control all rates of transportation on a just and equitable basis.

(b) The telegraph and telephone, like the postoffice system, being a necessity for the transmission of intelligence, should be owned and operated by the government in the interest of the people.

LAND.

We demand that no land shall be held by corporations for speculative purposes or by railroads in excess of their needs as carriers, and all lands now owned by aliens should be reclaimed by the government and held for actual settlers only.

EXECUTION OF UNITED STATES SENATORS.  
We demand the election of United States Senators by a direct vote of the people. That each State shall be divided into two districts of nearly equal voting population, and that Senators from each shall be elected by the people of the district.

DISTRICT LEGISLATION.

Relying upon the good, common sense of the American people, and believing that a majority of them, when uninfluenced by party prejudice, will vote right on all questions submitted to them on their merit; and, further, to effectually annihilate the pernicious lobby in legislation, we demand direct legislation by means of the initiative and referendum.

R. A. SOUTHWORTH,  
Sec'y-Treas. N. E. A. and I. U.